



e-News From *MAIEN*street

A Neighborhood e-Newsletter From Councilman Brian Maienschein

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Volume 2, Issue 1



Proudly Representing
the District Five
Communities of:

Carmel Mountain Ranch

Mira Mesa

Rancho Bernardo

Sabre Springs

San Pasqual

Scripps Ranch

Sorrento Mesa

Sorrento Valley

2001—A year in review

When I first took office on December 4, 2000, I set forth a number of goals that I wanted to accomplish during my first term to help improve neighborhoods and protect the high quality of life we all share along the I-15 corridor.

It has been a challenging first year but because of the dedication, support and input of District Five residents, together we have been able to tackle issues like transportation congestion relief, improving public safety and repairing our aging infrastructure system.

While walking the neighborhoods of District Five during my campaign I heard one complaint time and time again – traffic. As an I-15 corridor native, I have seen first hand the poor affects of urban sprawl on our transportation system.

To help address gridlock issues, I, along with Mayor Murphy, established in 2001 the Freeway Congestion Strike Team to review the city's transportation systems, keep current projects on time and on budget, and brainstorm new and innovative ideas to reduce congestion on our freeways and in our neighborhoods.

The Strike Team's primary focus in 2001 was to get SR-56 completed. When I took office, not one of the twenty-eight land parcels that needed to be acquired had been purchased. However, because I required city staff to report

Continued, Pg. 3

Inside this Issue:

| | |
|---|-----|
| 2001—A year in review | 1-3 |
| Camino Santa Fe to be extended | 1-2 |
| Recycle your holiday tree and save the environment! | 2-3 |
| The District Five Staff | 4 |
| Contact Councilman Maienschein | 4 |

Camino Santa Fe to be completed, traffic relief for Mira Mesa on horizon

Without a doubt, one of the most pressing issue for Mira Mesa residents is traffic on Mira Mesa Blvd. Because of the delay in completing SR-56 this east/west roads that connect I-5 and I-15 has become a virtual freeways—and at peak travel times, a virtual parking lot.

This is especially true near the corporate center of Sorrento Valley where congestion delays can reach up to forty-five minutes.

I'm proud to report that there is traffic congestion relief on the horizon for the residents of Mira Mesa. On December 11, the City Council approved a new biotech corporate research center for property that is currently the Fenton rock-producing plant. At my urging, the developer has agreed as part of the project, to extend Camino Santa Fe connecting Mira Mesa Blvd. and Miramar

Continued, pg. 2



Camino Santa Fe...continued from page 1

Rd.

This new, six lane road will significantly relieve congestion along Mira Mesa Blvd. by giving Sorrento Valley workers and Mira Mesa residents another north/south connector road and another entrance to the I-805/I-5 freeways.

Camino Santa Fe will have the ability to handle over 50,000 vehicles per day and will be completed by the end of 2002.

And the best part is this \$12 million road is being completed at NO cost to the taxpayers of San Diego.

To the thousands of Mira Mesa residents who are forced to sit in gridlock, completing Camino Santa Fe was a no brainer. We've long since known that the extension of this road would dramatically improve traffic circulation and reduce congestion delays. But nonetheless, getting this project approved was no easy task.

Despite my pleas to my colleagues on the Council, it looked as if this project may be killed because of minor environmental concerns associated with the project.

However, because a number of Mira Mesa Planning Group members took time out of their day to come down to Council to testify on behalf of the project, the Camino Santa Fe project was approved 7-2.

Their persuasive testimony about the desperate need for traffic relief was clearly the determining factor for a number of Councilmembers who were on the fence about the project and unsure of the need for Camino Santa Fe to be extended.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mira Mesa Planning Group members, Ted Brengle, Marvin Howell, Marv Miles, Jenette Waltz, and Hal Goldberg for their help in educating the Council about the traffic issues affecting the community of Mira Mesa and for making this project a reality.



Save the environment, recycle your Holiday tree

The City of San Diego's Environmental Services Department, I Love a Clean San Diego and the San Diego Association of Realtors, will once again sponsor a holiday tree recycling program this year.

In 2000, more than 138,000 trees were diverted from landfill disposal and instead ground into a rich mulch and compost which is available to the public free of charge at the Miramar Landfill Greenery.

Now in its 28th year, the City's holiday tree recycling program was chosen as the nation's most successful and efficient holiday tree recycling program in 1999 by the Solid Waste Association of North America and the National Christmas Tree Association.

District Five residents may recycle their trees at any of the locations listed below between December 26 and January 18:

Rancho Bernardo

Pinery Christmas Tree Company
13421 Highland Valley Rd.

Mira Mesa

Mira Mesa Little League ball fields
8500 block of New Salem St.

Scripps Ranch

Scripps Ranch Recreation Center
11454 Blue Cypress Dr.

Residents with curbside greenery recycling may also recycle



Continued, pg. 3



2001– A year in review...continued from page 1

back monthly on the status of the land acquisition, all parcels will be purchased by January 2002.

Addressing core neighborhood issues and improving our city's aging infrastructure was another priority during 2001. For far too long, City Hall has ignored neighborhoods and instead focused all efforts on downtown special interest.

During this year's budget negotiations I requested that a special Infrastructure Fund be established to make the necessary repairs and improvements to our parks, libraries, and community centers.

For instance, over \$160,000 was committed from the Infrastructure Fund to the RB Joslyn Senior Center for upgrades required under the Americans with Disabilities Act. Improvements to the RB Library and Mira Mesa Recreation Center, in addition to the resurfacing of many of our deteriorating streets, were also approved as part of my focus on District Five neighborhoods.

And in Scripps Ranch, we celebrated the groundbreaking for the expansion project at the Miramar Lake Water Treatment Plant, which will increase the capacity and reliability of the city's water supply.

With the help of the community of Scripps Ranch, we were able to purchase of a 4-acre parcel next to the Vons Marketplace shopping center on Scripps Poway Parkway to develop a new recreation facility. Without my action, this land would have been commercially developed.

However, one of my proudest accomplishments during my first term in office was the expansion of the Teen Court program - a juvenile diversion, sentencing proceeding for first-time, non-violent juvenile misdemeanor offenders.

Juvenile crime and youth issues are some of the main reasons why I ran for the City Council and expanding this program was one of my top priorities. In 2001, I was able to secure grant funding to hire a full-time coordinator and expand the program throughout District 5. Next year I hope to implement Teen Court city-wide.

These are just a few of the examples of the improvements we've made in District Five and there is still so much work to be done. I'm excited to continue the success we had in 2001. It has been an honor representing District Five during the past year and I'm looking forward to continue working with all communities in 2002 to help create neighborhoods we can all be proud of.

Tree recycling...continued from page 2

trees through the curbside recycling program. For curbside collection, trees need to be cut into lengths four feet or less.

This year trees covered in flock (snow flake) will be accepted. Residents participating in the program must plan to drop off only clean trees during daylight hours. All tree stands, nails and staples must be removed. Ornaments and other tree decorations must be deposited in trash containers.

For more information about this program, please call the City of San Diego recycling hotline at 858-467-0903.



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It's a pleasure to serve you on the San Diego City Council!!